NewsRelease

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Jim Roberts

Langley Research Center, Hampton, VA

(Phone: 757/864-8150)

Keith Henry

Langley Research Center, Hampton, VA

(Phone: 757/864-6120)

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Conference Will Showcase Langley's SBIR Program

NASA Langley Research Center will host the first-ever Research Development and Technology Conference on April 6 at the Radisson Hotel in Hampton.

The conference will focus on NASA's Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology (STTR) programs and the National Institute of Standards & Technology's Advanced Technology Program (ATP).

Thayer Sheets, NASA's SBIR New Initiatives Manager, said the conference will allow Langley to market itself to Virginia's small, high-tech businesses and offer them information on how to compete for SBIR funds. The SBIR and STTR programs have Fiscal Year 2000 budgets of \$92.1 million and \$5.5 million, respectively.

"It is an opportunity for them to learn about the program," Sheets said. "We are trying to attract Virginia companies that are interested in research being performed at Langley."

Virginia Secretary of Technology Donald W. Upson will deliver the keynote address during a luncheon at noon on April 6.

NASA speakers will include: Langley Center Director Dr. Jeremiah F. Creedon, who will give the opening remarks; NASA's General Aviation Programs Manager Bruce J. Holmes; Langley's Technology Commercialization Program Office Director Samuel A. Morello; NASA's SBIR/STTR Program Manager W. Paul Mexcur; and NASA's SBIR Procurement Manager Karin Huth.

Other speakers will include: Dr. K.C. Das, director of Virginia's Office of Innovative Technology; Anne A. Armstrong, president of the Virginia Center for Innovative Technology; and Dr. Michael Dingerson, Old Dominion University's associate vice president for research and graduate studies.

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Note to Editors: For details about the conference agenda, call the Virginia Office of Innovative Technology at 804-371-2748.